

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 23 are pending in this application. Claims 1 – 23 are rejected in the present Office Action.

Claims 1 – 23 were rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 – 21 have been amended to indicate that the present application discloses a coating composition. Claim 3 has been amended to delete the reference to "high UV" stabilizers and absorbers. The term "UV" has been replaced with "ultraviolet" in claim 3. Claims 4, 11 and 12 have been amended to recite "reactive wax." Claims 5 – 14 have been amended to recite that the particular ingredient weights in the claims are a percentage of the total weight of the coating composition. With regard to claims 19 and 20, the properties recited in these claims relate to the polyurethane dispersion ingredient of the coating composition and not to the cured coating. Claim 21 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. With regard to claim 23, "appearance coatings" refers to coating that are applied to external articles, such as automobile weatherstrips, windshield wipers, etc., while "outer belt" refers generally to such articles. The definitions of these terms would be well within the knowledge of one skilled in the art. In view of the amendments set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 – 23 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 1 – 23 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1, 4 – 9, 15, 16 and 18 – 23 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) by WO 03/053728, filed by Sydes. Sydes discloses a coating system for flexible thermoplastic extrusions comprising a UV curable resin. Claim 1, as amended, requires the use of one or more silicone resin emulsions which provide abrasion and noise resistance and increased slip. In contrast, Sydes contains wetting agents that may be in silicone polymer emulsion form but which are not sufficient to provide the beneficial properties of the silicone resin emulsions of the present invention. In addition, the silicone resin emulsions of the present invention have a significantly higher molecular weight than the wetting agents of Sydes. As anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) requires identity of invention, in view of the differences between Sydes and the present invention, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4 – 9, 15, 16 and 18 – 23 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) over Sydes.

Claims 1 – 16 and 18 – 21 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by U.S. Patent No. 6,987,135, issued to Van Den Berg. Van Den Berg discloses a photoactivatable waterborne coating composition containing a polyurethane dispersion and photoinitiator. Claim 1, as amended, requires the use of one or more high molecular weight silicone resin emulsions which provide abrasion and noise resistance and increased slip. In contrast, Van Den Berg contains no disclosure of such silicone resin emulsions. As anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) requires identity


of invention, in view of the differences between Van Den Berg and the present invention, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 – 16 and 18 – 21 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Van Den Berg.

Claims 1 – 8 and 21 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by U.S. Patent No. 6,960,639, issued to Weikard. Weikard discloses aqueous coating compositions based on polyurethane dispersions and a photoinitiator. Claim 1, as amended, requires the use of one or more high molecular weight silicone resin emulsions which provide abrasion and noise resistance and increased slip. In contrast, Weikard contains no disclosure of such silicone resin emulsions. As anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) requires identity of invention, in view of the differences between Weikard and the present invention, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 – 8 and 21 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Weikard.

Claim 17 was rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Sydes in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,525,427, issued to Griswold. The distinctions between Sydes and the present invention set forth above are equally applicable to the present rejection. Griswold discloses a water reducible weatherstrip coating. It is respectfully submitted that, based on the differences between the required ingredients of each composition, one skilled in the art would not combine the polysiloxane of Griswold in the invention of Sydes. Even if one were to combine Sydes and Griswold, the result would still be different in that there would be no improved noise or abrasion resistance or increased slip as provided by the silicone resin emulsion of the present invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Sydes in view of Griswold.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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